

Message Text

PAGE 01 SAN JO 00321 102102Z

64

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-20 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 INR-10

LAB-06 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 DRC-01 /071 W

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P 102004Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5049

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAN JOSE 3218

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ELAB, CS

SUBJECT: PTTI REPRESENTATIVE'S PROPOSED TRAVEL TO SAN JOSE,
SEPTEMBER 20

REF: STATE 169453, 171076, 172034, 178731

SAN JOSE 3030, 3021, 3000

1. PTTI'S PRINCIPLE AFFILIATE UNION HERE, SITET, IS PRESENTLY INVOLVED IN A MAJOR CONFRONTATION WITH THE GOVERNMENT OWNED COSTA RICAN ELECTRCITIY INSTITUTE (ICE). SAN JOSE REFTELS PROVIDE BACKGROUND ON DISPUTE AND PTTI INVOLVE-

MENT. IN THE EVENT THAT A STRIKE IS CALLED, ELECTRICAL POWER AND COMMUNICATIONS IN THE COUNTRY COULD BE SHUT DOWN AND THE PTTI COULD COME IN FOR HEAVY GOVERNMENTAL CRITICISM FOR ITS ROLE IN THE DISPUTE.

WE ARE UNABLE TO PREDICT AT THIS POINT WHAT THE STATE OF THE CONFRONTATION WILL BE ON SEPTEMBER 20 WHEN THE PTTI REPRESENTATIVE PROPOSES TO ARRIVE, BUT PRESIDENT FIGUERES HAS AGREED TO MEDIATE THE DISPUTE DURING THE NEXT WEEK OR TEN DAYS. IN VIEW OF THE DELICATESTATE WHICH THIS MEDIATION PHASE PRESENTS, THE EMBASSY CONSIDERS IT INAPPROPRIATE THAT THE PTTI REPRESENTATIVE
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STOP IN COSTA RICA AT THIS TIME, HOWEVER INNOCENT HIS MISSION MAY BE. HIS PRESENCE WILL ONLY ADD TO CURRENT SPECULATION THAT THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT IS WORKING ON BEHALF OF SITET, BASED ON WIDESPREAD FAILURE TO DISTINGUISH

BETWEEN PTTI AND USG.

3. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE MORE INFORMATION AS
TO PTTI REPRESENTATIVE'S OBJECTIVES IN PROPOSED TRIP
TO COSTA RICA.

VAKY

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TAGS: ELAB, CS
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SAN SALVADOR
MANAGUA
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